



ARCHIBALD MALLOCH, M.D.

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Dr. Archibald Malloch, Librarian Emeritus of The New York Academy of Medicine, died on September 19, 1953 at the age of sixty-seven. He had been Librarian from 1925 until his resignation because of ill health in 1949.

Dr. Malloch was born in Hamilton, Ontario, August 10, 1887, the son of Dr. Archibald E. Malloch and Mary Frances Reynolds Malloch. His father, a leading surgeon of the region, had served as Lister's House Surgeon in 1868 and was a close friend of Sir William Osler.

After graduating from the Faculty of Arts, Queens University, with the degree of B.A., Dr. Malloch entered McGill University where he received his M.D.C.M., from the Faculty of Medicine in 1913. Further training as medical intern and resident pathologist and bacteriologist was interrupted by World War I, when Dr. Malloch joined the Canadian Red Cross. He was first assigned to the Friends' Ambulance Unit at Dunkirk in October, 1914, having crossed the Atlantic on the *Lusitania's* last trip before her sinking. In 1915, Dr. Malloch served at Depage's Hospital at La Panne. In July, 1915, he opened a new hospital for officers at Burley-on-the-Hill, Rutland. This was for years the home of the Finch family. Here, at the suggestion of Sir William Osler, he began work in his spare time, on *Finch and Baines, a Seventeenth Century Friendship*, the research being done at the Bodleian Library. The book was published in 1917.

In 1916, Dr. Malloch was transferred to Alford House, London, which had been set up as a hospital for officers. In the spring of that year he joined the newly formed McGill Unit being stationed at Canadian General Hospital No. 3 at Wimereux near Boulogne. In January, 1918, Dr. John McCrae, the author of *In Flanders Fields*, died and Dr. Malloch took his place in

charge of the "pneumonia huts."

On November 8, 1918, Capt. T. A. Malloch, No. 3 General Hospital, Canadian A.M.C., was mentioned in despatches from Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig for gallant and distinguished service in the field.

During 1920-1921, he was a Beit Fellow doing research at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and Queens Square Neurological Hospital. He had become a member of the Royal College of Physicians in August, 1918 and was made a Fellow in 1930.

In December, 1919, Dr. Malloch joined the Osler household at Oxford and stayed there as one of the attending physicians until Sir William's death.

At Lady Osler's request Dr. Malloch became one of the editors of the catalogue raisonné of Dr. Osler's collection of eight thousand rare books. The catalogue was finally printed in 1929 as the *Bibliotheca Osleriana*.

In 1922, Dr. Malloch began practice in Montreal but returned to Oxford for four months to continue work on the catalogue of the Osler library. During this visit he met his future wife, Katharine Elizabeth Abbott, a niece of Dr. Osler. They were married at Philadelphia, May 28, 1924.

Dr. Malloch was appointed Librarian to The New York Academy of Medicine on September 16, 1925 to begin his work on January 1, 1926. When circumstances turned his steps to the library world, he resigned as Demonstrator of Medicine at McGill, Assistant Physician at the Royal Victoria Hospital and Assistant Editor of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*.

At the time Dr. Malloch assumed duty at the Academy, the library consisted of 135,000 volumes and one of his earliest problems was to arrange for the transfer of these books from 43rd Street to our present building. This great task was accomplished in the short space of four

months without loss or damage of a single volume. During this period the Malloch family resided on Riverside Drive. On May 3, 1927, the family moved to Woodlands near Ardsley, Westchester County.

Soon after the opening of the new building Dr. Malloch and the Committee on Exhibits arranged an exhibit of Early and Later Medical Americana and an excellent catalogue was published.

During Dr. Malloch's incumbency as Librarian, the Academy Library grew to be the second largest medical library in the country, with 262,000 volumes, and serving more readers than any other medical library. The staff increased from ten in 1925 to over forty-six librarians organized in departments.

Dr. Malloch established the Department of Rare Books and the History of Medicine, which during his term acquired the Streeter collection and many other important additions, including the latest, the Edwin Smith Surgical Papyrus. He was largely responsible for rousing the interest of Dr. Fenwick Beekman, through whose efforts that valuable accession was acquired.

It was his collaboration with the late Dr. Samuel W. Lambert which led to the formation of the Library Publication Fund which has been an important factor in making the Academy better known in the library world. His interest and influence played a large part in the formation of the "Friends" of the Rare Book Room of the Library of The New York Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Malloch was the author of four books: *Finch and Baines*, 1917, *William Harvey*, 1929, *Short Years: the Life and Letters of John Bruce MacCallum*, 1938, and *Medical Interchange Between the British Isles and America Before 1801*. This last book was an expansion of the two FitzPatrick Lectures which were to have been delivered at the Royal College

of Physicians of London in November, 1939, but World War II made this impossible. Dr. Malloch also wrote numerous papers on clinical medicine, medical history, bibliography and biography.

As President from 1927 to 1929, he rendered great service to the Medical Library Association and later became Chairman of the Publication Committee. He served as an honorary consultant to the Army Medical Library and as a consulting editor to the *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*. For many years he was an officer of the British Bibliographical Society.

Dr. Malloch was a member of the Century Association and the Charaka Club. After joining the Charaka Club in 1926 he acted for many years as secretary and as editor of the *Proceedings*.

Summer vacations were spent at Waquoit on Cape Cod where his wife's family, the Abbotts, had been established for many years. Here in a house overlooking the Bay he enjoyed the company of his devoted family and a few close friends who spent their summers nearby.

Dr. Malloch's life was that of a scholar and bookman. His own library reflected his wide interest not only in medicine but in general history and literature. For recreation he enjoyed golf and walking. He was fond of making things out of wood.

With his rare charm and quiet humor he endeared himself to people of all ages and all walks of life. He earned the confidence and affection of the library staff. He was always helpful to others, especially the young. His colleagues recognized his integrity and his learning. His memory will endure in the hearts of students of medical history.

Dr. Malloch is survived by his wife, a daughter and two sons.

CLAUDE EDWIN HEATON